UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/764,308	01/19/2001	Takanori Terada	1046.1232/JDH	6758

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EXAMINER
DELGADO, MICHAEL A

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2144	

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/764,308	TERADA, TAKANORI
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael S. A. Delgado	2144	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 September 2004</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle,* 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1,2,4-11,13-20 and 22-27</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1,2,4-11,13-20 and 22-27</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>27 September 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 4-11, 13-20, and 22-27 have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed
> in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for
> patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an
> international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this
> subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United
> States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-2, 4-11, 13-20, and 22-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by US Patent No. 6,721,785 by Raghunandan.

In claim 1, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device comprising (Fig 2):

a first detection module (program that link alias to recipient email addresses) of detecting

that a plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses exist in a stored mail delivery

history (Col 1, line 65-Col 2, line 5) (Col 4, lines 48-55); (Alias are stored in advance to reduce

the burden of entering individual email).

a generating module (the function of defining the recipient of the email message) of

executing a process of generating a group formed of the plurality of multicast target mail

destination addresses in all of destination attributes " alias41.... Alias4n", corresponding to the

detection (Col 5, lines 60-67) (Col 6, lines 10-20 (Col 2, lines 1-5); and (Alias or grouping is

done to associate a plurality of email addresses that have the same characteristic or attribute).

an adding module "inclusion directive" of adding the group name corresponding to the

plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses of the destination attribute to group

management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 2, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 1, further

comprising a second detection module of detecting that there does not exist the group

corresponding to the mail destination addresses existing in the history (Col 5, lines 35-60)

(detection module- i.e. the function that determine that a selection command is active, which

indicates that a intended group is not available and therefore has to be created base on the

accompanying directives).

wherein said generating module executes the process of generating the group if there

does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination addresses (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 4, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 1, wherein

said adding module includes a providing module of providing an occasion of registering the

group name corresponding to the mail destination addresses (Col 4, lines 48-55). (This is

function that is used when creating alias).

In claim 5, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 4, wherein said adding module further includes a first registering module of registering the group name inputted by a user in the group management information on the occasion of registering the group name "alias" (Col 1, line 65- Col 2, line 5).

In claim 6, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 5, wherein said adding module further includes a second registering module of registering a piece of registration reject state information in the group management information when the user rejects the registration of the group name on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 3, lines 30-40). (the exclusion directive that remove names from the final list)

In claim 7, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 4, further comprising a setting module of setting an input count of the mail destination addresses in the history in order to provide the occasion of registering the group name (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 8, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 1, wherein said adding module generates the group name by a predetermined algorithm "rules" and adds this group name to the group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 9, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 1, further comprising a selecting module "selection command" of enabling the user to select whether the process of generating the group is to be executed or not (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 10, Raghunandan teaches about a method of generating a group of mail

addresses, comprising (Fig 2):

detecting that a plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses exist in a stored

mail delivery history (Col 1, line 65-Col 2, line 5) (Col 4, lines 48-55); (Alias are stored in

advance to reduce the burden of entering individual email).

executing a process of generating a group formed of the plurality of multicast target mail

destination addresses in all of destination attributes " alias41.... Alias4n", corresponding to the

detection (Col 5, lines 60-67) (Col 6, lines 10-20 (Col 2, lines 1-5); and (Alias or grouping is

done to associate a plurality of email addresses that have the same characteristic or attribute).

adding the group name corresponding to the plurality of multicast target mail destination

addresses of the destination attribute to group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 11, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail

addresses according to claim 10, further comprising:

detecting that there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination

addresses existing in the history (Col 5, lines 35-60); (detection module- i.e. the function that

determine that a selection command is active, which indicates that a intended group is not

available and therefore has to be created base on the accompanying directives) and

executes the process of generating the group if there does not exist the group

corresponding to the mail destination addresses (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 13, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 10, further comprising:

providing an occasion of registering the group name corresponding to the mail destination addresses (Col 4, lines 48-55). (This is function that is used when creating alias).

In claim 14, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 13, further comprising:

registering the group name inputted by a user in the group management information on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 1, line 65- Col 2, line 5).

In claim 15, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 14, further comprising:

registering a piece of registration reject state information in the group management information when the user rejects the registration of the group name on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 3, lines 30-40).

In claim 16, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 13, further comprising:

setting an input count of the mail destination addresses in the history in order to provide the occasion of registering the group name (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 17, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 10, further comprising:

generating the group name by a predetermined algorithm "rules" and adding this group name to the group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 18, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 10, further comprising:

enabling a user to select whether the process of generating the group is to be executed or not "selection command" (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 19, Raghunandan teaches about an readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer, comprising (Fig 2):

detecting that a plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses exist in a stored mail delivery history (Col 1, line 65-Col 2, line 5) (Col 4, lines 48-55); (Alias are stored in advance to reduce the burden of entering individual email).

executing a process of generating a group formed of the plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses in all of destination attributes " alias41.... Alias4n", corresponding to the detection (Col 5, lines 60-67) (Col 6, lines 10-20 (Col 2, lines 1-5); and (Alias or grouping is done to associate a plurality of email addresses that have the same characteristic or attribute).

adding the group name corresponding to the plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses of the destination attribute to group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 20, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 19, further comprising:

a detecting that there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination addresses existing in the history (Col 5, lines 35-60) (detection module- i.e. the function that determine that a selection command is active, which indicates that a intended group is not available and therefore has to be created base on the accompanying directives).

executing the process of generating the group if there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination addresses (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 22, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 19, further comprising registering the group name corresponding to the mail destination addresses (Col 4, lines 48-55). (This is function that is used when creating alias).

In claim 23, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 22, further comprising registering the group name inputted by a user in the group management information on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 1, line 65- Col 2, line 5).

In claim 24, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 23, further comprising registering a piece of registration reject state information in the group management information when the user

rejects the registration of the group name on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 3, lines 30-40). (The exclusion directive that remove names from the final list)

In claim 25, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 22,further comprising a step of setting an input count of the mail destination addresses in the history in order to provide the occasion of registering the group name (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 26, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 19,further comprising a step of generating the group name by a predetermined algorithm "rules" and adding this group name to the group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 27, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 19,further comprising enabling the user to select whether the process of generating the group is to be executed or not "selection command" (Col 5, lines 45-60).

Conclusion

3.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent 6,289,372 by Vyazniko teaches about a method for transmitting and processing group messages in the e-mail system.

US Patent 6,289,372 by Rothschild et al teaches about a server-group messaging system for interactive applications.

4.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael S. A. Delgado whose telephone number is (571) 272-3926. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 AM - 5.30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM A CUCHLINSKI JR can be reached on (571) 272-3925

. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MD

WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600